

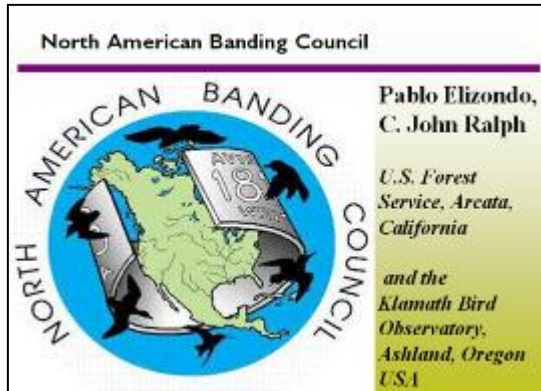
WESTERN HEMISPHERE BIRD BANDING NETWORK

Red de Anillamiento de Aves del Hemisferio Occidental

Training and certification

North American Banding Council: Experiences on training and certification across the region

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NORTH AMERICAN BANDING COUNCIL AND Landbird Monitoring Network of the Americas

- NABC is a collaboration of ornithological societies and governments.
- ...promotes standards, methods, and communication.
- LaMNA is a Network of banders and institutions...
- .provides data, infrastructure analysis/visualization tools
- LaMNA enables NABC standards and maintains DIVERSITY OF DATA

North American Banding Council

- Non-profit and non-governmental organization
- Consists of representatives of ornithological societies and promotes sound and ethical banding principals and techniques

NABC Representatives

American Ornithologists' Union, Raptor Research Foundation, Association of Field Ornithologists, Cooper Ornithological Society, Society of Canadian Ornithologists, Waterbird Society, Eastern Bird Banding Association, Western Bird Banding Association, Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network, Ontario Bird Banding Association, Inland Bird Banding Association, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, Wilson Ornithological Society,

- Ex-officio Representatives from the Mexican, Canadian, and U.S. Bird Banding Offices and organizations
- Encourage participation from all North American banders
- Discussion ongoing to include representatives from all of the Americas or to encourage Latin American organizations

NABC Background

- Organizational Meeting in California, March 1995
- Identify needs: training, evaluation, certification, and ethics
- Discussions: permitting policies; bander training in all countries of the Americas
- North American Banding Council established in 1996

What is NABC doing?

- Publications, current manuals in English, Spanish, and French languages are available

WESTERN HEMISPHERE BIRD BANDING NETWORK

Red de Anillamiento de Aves del Hemisferio Occidental

- North American Banders' Study Guide
- Instructors' Guide to Training Banders in North America
- Manual for Banding Hummingbirds
- Manual for Banding Raptors
- Manual for Banding Passerines and Near Passerines
- Manual for Banding Shorebirds
- Manual for Banding Waterfowl
- Being prepared:
 - Manual for Banding and Public Outreach
 - Manual for Seabirds
- International Programs
 - Manual translations
 - NABC guidelines for training in Neotropics
 - NABC contributes input to resident banding programs
- Bander training and certification program
 - Integrate NABC publications and guidelines into training programs and workshops
 - Recent and Upcoming NABC Training programs in: Caribbean Region, El Salvador, Peru and Costa Rica – November 2010!

Bander Certification Levels

- **Assistant:** competence in handling and banding birds under direct supervision.
- **Bander:** competence in all aspects of banding, including the design and carrying out of meaningful studies that involve the capturing, handling, identifying, ageing, sexing, banding, and measuring of birds; recording of data; and accurate and timely completion of banding schedules.
- **Trainer:** banders with exceptional experience, knowledge, skill, and demonstrated teaching ability. Trainers will certify banders.

Bander Certification

- Group and Individual Evaluations –
- Written Exams
- Field Evaluation - comprehensive assessment of skills
 - Safe capture techniques
 - Biometrics
 - Identification, ageing, and sexing

NABC and Opportunities

- For banders to establish standards for banding
- To make knowledgeable decisions in bander training
- For collaboration in research
- To continue learning

NABC - Banding in Bird Studies

Bird studies will benefit from:

- Increased number of competent banders
- More reliably accurate data
- More opportunities for collaborative studies
- Birds will benefit from a safer, more effective, banding program in the Americas
- Banding Offices can recognize certification as evidence of qualifications for a federal banding permit
- Integration of data with LaMNA will result in fantastic analyses!